



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD OF VISITORS  
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY  
121 BLAKE ROAD  
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND 21402-5000

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY BOARD OF VISITORS

December 5, 2016  
Alumni Hall, Bo Coppedge Room  
Annapolis, MD

Members present: Congressman Wittman, Judge Wallach, Senator Cardin, Senator Sullivan, Congressman Cummings, Congressman Ruppertsberger, Congressman Young, Admiral Winnefeld (USN, Ret.), Lieutenant Commander Cnossen (USN, Ret.), Captain Barker (USN, Ret.), Ms. Wright, and Ms. Fox.

Congressman Wittman called the open session of the meeting to order at 0900. Congressman Wittman welcomed the Board members and administered the Oath of Office to new members CAPT (USN, Ret.) Barker, Ms. Wright, and Ms. Fox.

Congressman Wittman began annual elections for Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Election for Chairman: Judge Wallach praised Congressman Wittman's leadership and nominated him to continue as Chairman. Congressman Wittman was subsequently re-elected to serve as Chairman of the Board.

Election for Vice Chairman: Congressman Cummings nominated Judge Wallach to serve as Vice Chairman. Judge Wallach was subsequently elected to serve as Vice Chairman of the Board.

Congressman Wittman yielded the floor to Vice Admiral Carter.

**Superintendent's Update:** Delivered by Vice Admiral Walter E. Carter, Jr, Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy.

- **Opening Comments:** Vice Admiral Carter welcomed the Board. He paused to mention MIDN 1/C Jason Jablonski, who passed away after a fight against leukemia and other illnesses on November 27<sup>th</sup>. He then addressed the moral, mental, and physical development of the Brigade of Midshipmen, followed by his three priorities as Superintendent—Leader Development, Cyber Studies, and International Education.
- **Moral Development:** Vice Admiral Carter discussed the many forms of community service midshipmen have been involved in over the past few months. This included the Harvest for the Hungry Campaign which collected a record-setting 80,000 pounds of food, the Honor Salute Program, a World War II memorial cleanup in remembrance of 9/11, and an outreach program which

brought 240 middle-school aged girls to the Naval Academy to learn about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) through hands-on activities. Vice Admiral Carter highlighted the winners of several ethics-based awards, including two midshipmen who won a nationally-renowned ethics competition hosted at the University of Arizona.

- **Mental Development:** Vice Admiral Carter presented the Class of 2017's international scholarship winners to date, including Lucy Ford (Rhodes Scholar) as well as Ross Gilchriest and Erik Sutton (both Schwarzman Scholarship winners). He also discussed the Naval Academy's 89.5% graduation rate, the highest among all public institutions.
- **Physical Development:** Vice Admiral Carter spoke about Navy Football's excellent 2016 season, in which they won the AAC West for the first time in program history. He discussed the school's historic fall sports season against Army, in which they have won 8 out of 9 contests. He specifically highlighted men's and women's swimming which beat Army for the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> years in a row, respectively, on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Three Priorities:** The Superintendent moved on to a discussion of his three priorities as Superintendent—Leader Development, Cyber Studies, and International Education. The Superintendent spoke of two outstanding midshipmen who were presented awards for their excellence in leadership. Midshipman First Class RJ Snell was a recipient of the Cadet Role Model Award on behalf of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Hispanic Engineer National Achievement and Awards Conference and Midshipman First Class Courtney Mason was a recipient of the 2016 Student Leadership Award at the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Women of Color STEM Conference. The Superintendent then moved to Cyber Studies, sharing information about Hopper Hall, named after Rear Admiral Grace Hopper, the new cyber building which will be constructed between Nimitz Library and Rickover Hall. Ground was broken on October 21, with an estimated completion date in the fall of 2019. The Superintendent wrapped up his three priorities with a discussion about International Education. He briefed the Board on the historic year the school had in international outreach, with 81 midshipmen in semester study abroad programs in 17 countries, 430 midshipmen taking part in cultural immersion programs in 40 countries, and a variety of other international engagement efforts. He went on to discuss the impact of budget shortfalls on these important programs in the coming years.
- **Admissions Outreach and Honor Update:** The Superintendent briefed the Board on recent outreach efforts with a specific focus on the OPINFO program. He also provided information on admissions considerations and the methods in which a student can be nominated to the Naval Academy. He closed out his presentation with an update on last year's Honor Review and its positive effect on the Naval Academy's honor program.

**Academic Update:** Dean Boyd Waite began by giving more detail about the Center for Cyber Security Studies, including the successful ABET Accreditation Visit for the Naval Academy's Cyber Operations Major. He highlighted Dr. Allen Parrish, who was named an ABET Fellow at the ABET Awards Gala earlier this year. He then discussed the 7<sup>th</sup> annual

Naval Academy Science and Engineering Conference, which took place in November. He concluded with a note about the USNA Masqueraders' critically-acclaimed performance of *Much Ado About Nothing*. He then yielded the floor to Mr. Claude Berube, the Director of the Naval Academy Museum, who briefed the Board on many of the museum's new exhibits and its role in experiential learning. At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Berube yielded the floor to Dean Waite.

### **Break**

**Brigade of Midshipmen Update:** The Commandant of Midshipmen, Colonel Steve Liszewski, briefed the Board on some key events during the Fall Semester, including an in-depth look at the service assignment process and the results from the Class of 2017. He then invited Midshipman First Class Sierra Knock to speak about her path to selecting Surface Warfare (Nuclear). Colonel Liszewski spoke about the importance of resilience at the Naval Academy and how the school fosters resilience, and then concluded with a brief look at the Brigade's schedule for the next few months. Colonel Liszewski then yielded the floor to Captain John Ralph and Captain Mike McGinnis for an update on the Naval Academy's medical and counseling systems.

**Medical Update:** Captain John Ralph, Director of the Midshipmen Development Center, presented statistics on psychological issues and treatment options available to midshipmen. He showed that the Midshipmen Development Center has been successful in both its proactive outreach programs and its focus on helping midshipmen learn to cope with failure and grow through adversity. Captain Mike McGinnis, Commanding Officer of Naval Health Clinic Annapolis, provided an overview of the history of Navy Medicine in Annapolis as well as the myriad of roles his staff plays in ensuring the highest quality care for midshipmen. He provided a positive analysis of Naval Health Clinic Annapolis relative to other service academies and civilian colleges, and concluded by reviewing the efficacy of his staff's mechanisms for process improvement.

Captain McGinnis yielded the floor to Vice Admiral Carter, who thanked the Board for their support. He then yielded the floor to the Chairman.

Congressman Wittman thanked the Superintendent for his leadership and comprehensive report. He and the other Board members advised the Superintendent to "Beat Army," and adjourned the open portion of the meeting.

December 5, 2016 Minutes Approved:

  
Chairman